

# A nuclear weapon free world: Is it desirable? Is it feasible?

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Presentation at ISODARCO Winter Course  
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# Who believes nuclear disarmament is desirable?

- United Nations
- States Parties to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty
- International Court of Justice
- The 122 countries that negotiated the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons
- Scholars and policy analysts



Ward Wilson, The Pennyfarthing H-Bomb



# Who believes nuclear disarmament is desirable?



**#SEP26DONTNUKEUS**  
[GoFundMe.com/Nuke\\_Tree\\_Project](https://www.gofundme.com/Nuke_Tree_Project)



# Who is opposed to nuclear disarmament?



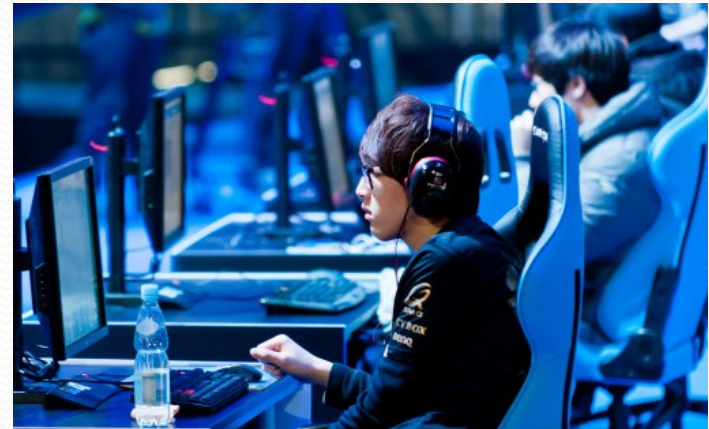
Chris Ford, special assistant to the US president and NSC senior director for WMD and counterproliferation

- Nuclear armed and allied States which still rely on nuclear deterrence
- Security officials, scholars and policy analysts
- Companies manufacturing nuclear weapons systems



# Who is opposed to nuclear disarmament?

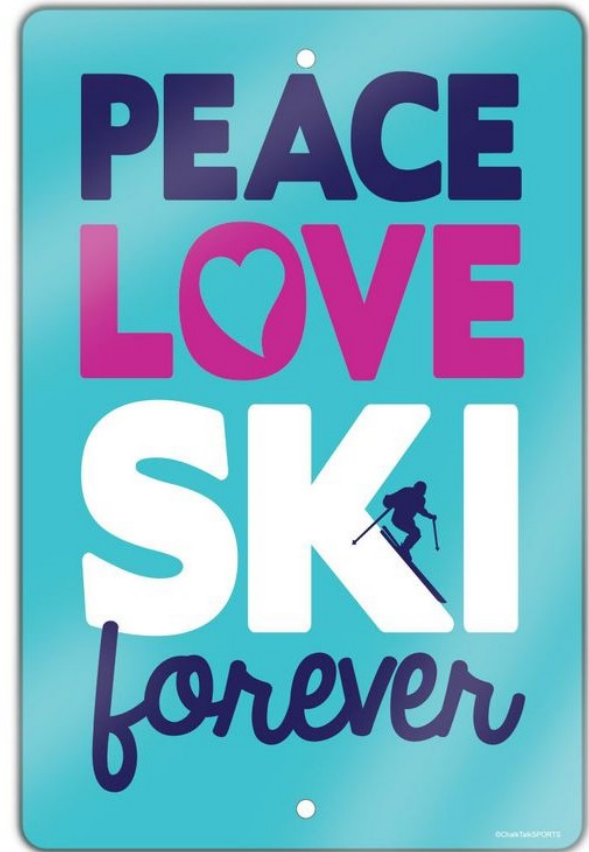
- Dr Strangeloves and gamers who play Nuclear End 2 and other online nuclear war games





# Key questions?

- Will the 'ban' treaty ban nuclear weapons?
- How can we eliminate reliance on nuclear weapons?
- How to 'Move the Nuclear Weapons Money'
- Can we do all this and still have time to go skiing between sessions?



# Will the 'ban' treaty ban nuclear weapons

- Treaty prohibits use, threat of use, development, possession, testing, deploy
- 122 countries negotiated the treaty, adopted July 7, 2017
- 56 countries have signed (3 have ratified)

But

- No nuclear-reliant states support
- Treaty does not prohibit activities that would directly impact policies and practices of the nuclear reliant states

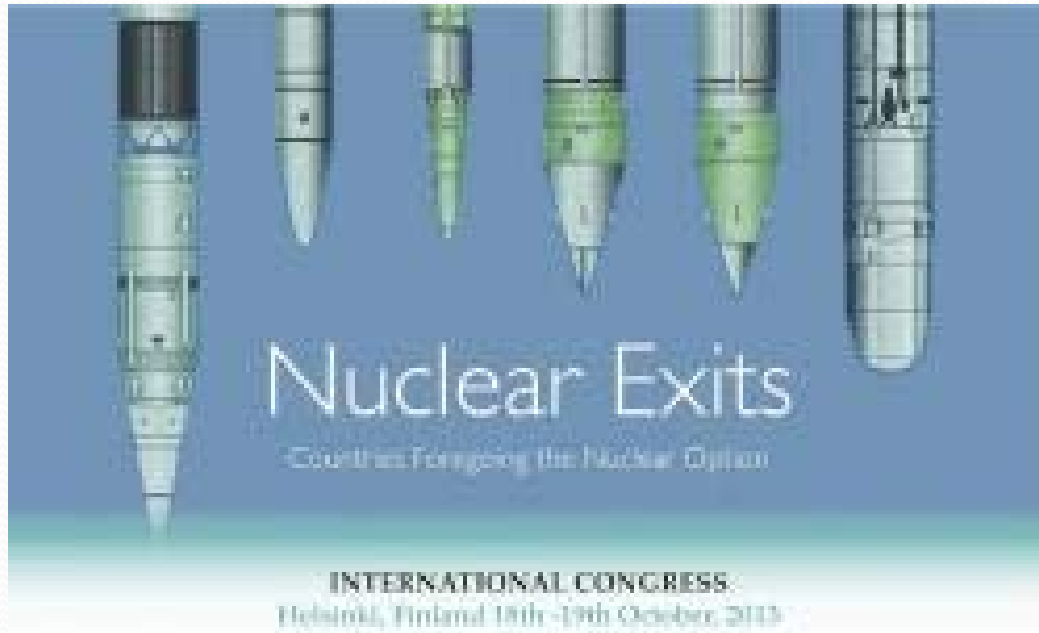


# Eliminating reliance on nuclear weapons

- Experience of countries that have rejected nuclear weapons or eliminated their previous reliance on nuclear weapons.
- Using other security mechanisms and approaches to fulfill the functions of nuclear deterrence.
- Negotiating a nuclear weapons convention: a verified, phased and enforceable elimination of nuclear weapons.



# Nuclear exit countries



- Sweden
- Switzerland
- South Africa
- Kazakhstan
- Ukraine
- Belarus
- Greece
- New Zealand
- Brazil & Argentina

# New Zealand from war-like and pro-nuclear to anti-nuclear

- Boer War
- First World War
- Second World War
- Malaya war
- Korea War
- Vietnam War





# Pro-nuclear New Zealand:

Celebrated the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki



# Pro-nuclear New Zealand

- Joins nuclear alliance 1951
- Supports nuclear tests of US and UK 1950s-1960s
- Welcomes visits of nuclear armed ships

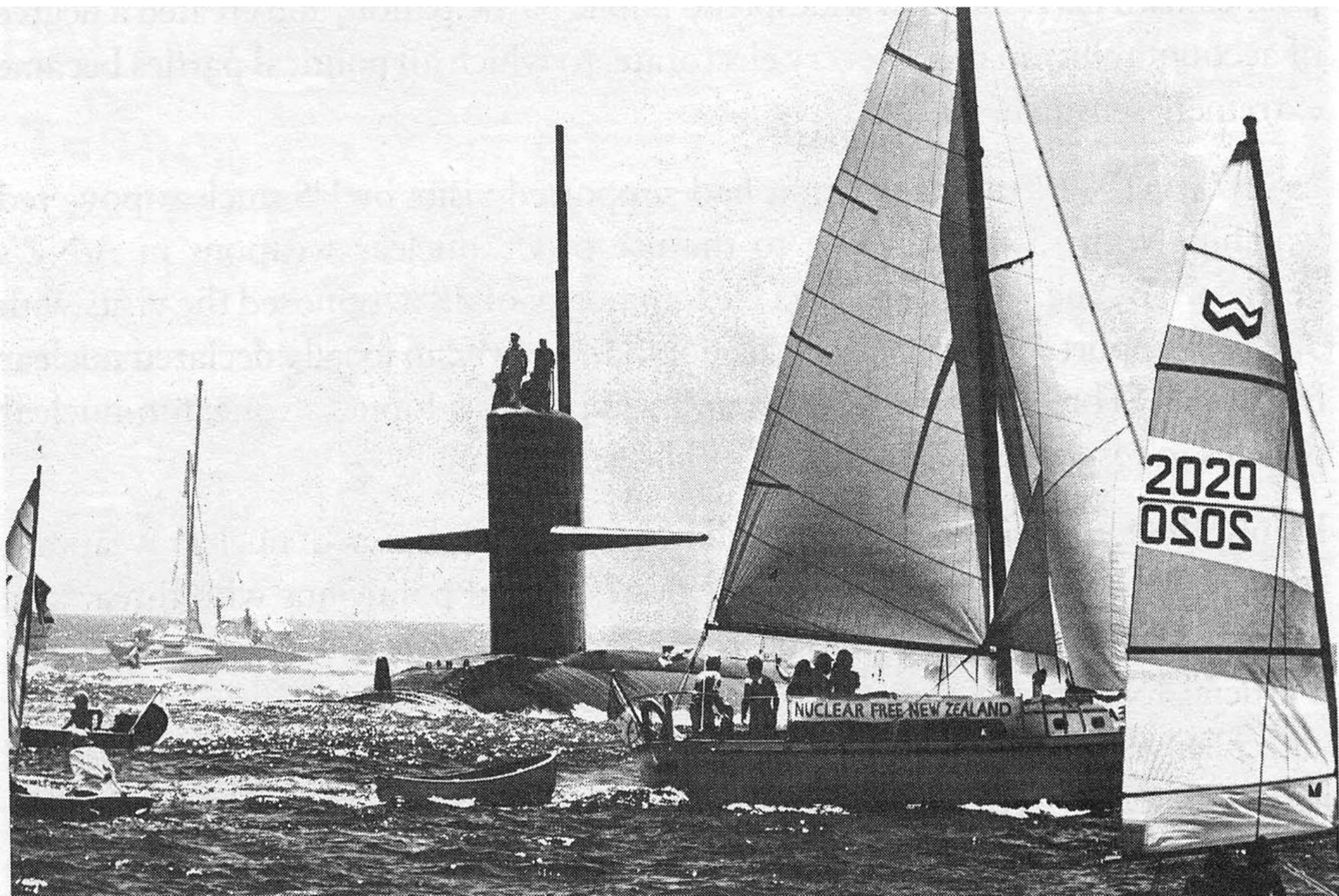


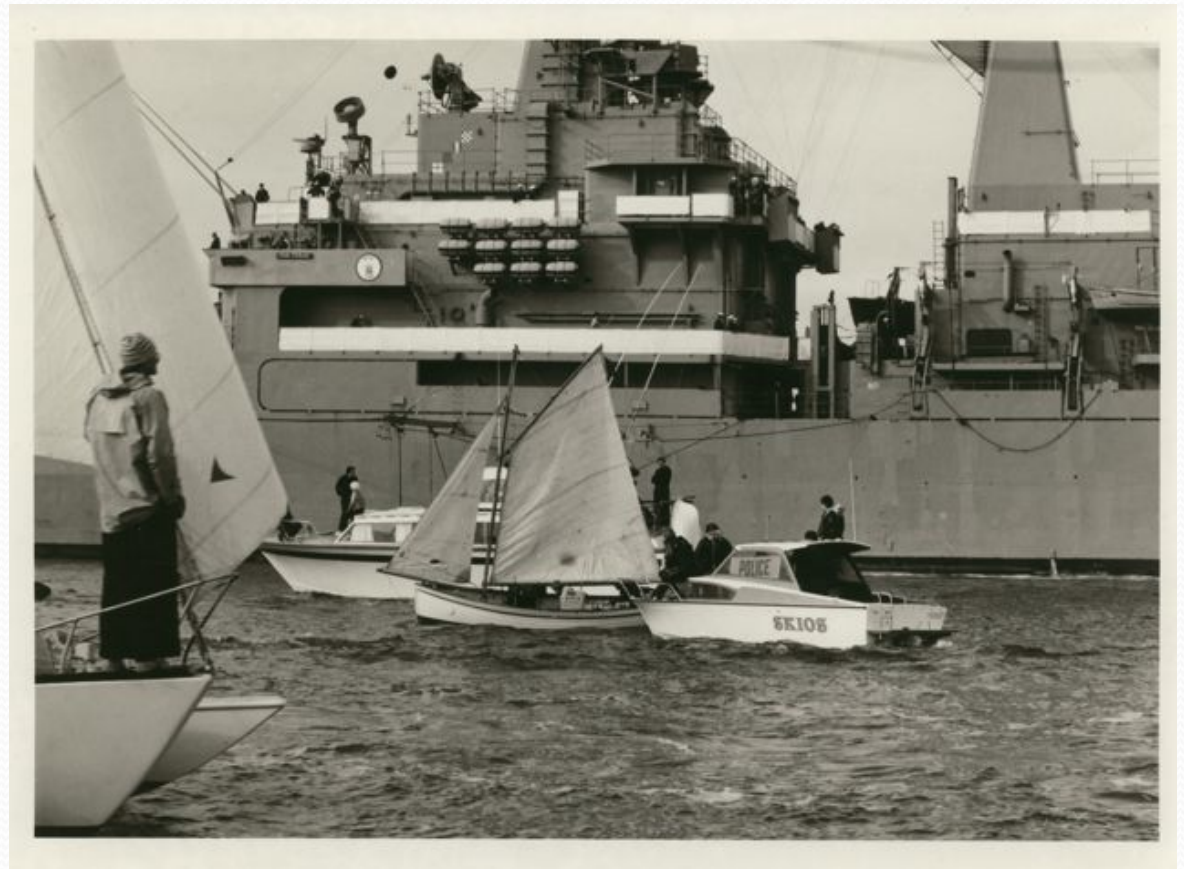
*“The problem of Vietnam was the unwillingness of the United States to use the ultimate weapon.”*

Prime Minister Rob Muldoon

PM Robert Muldoon on a nuclear-armed warship visiting NZ

















New Zealand Nuclear  
Free 1984 under  
leadership of Prime  
Minister David Lange





# Security without nuclear weapons:

## Replacing nuclear deterrence with other security frameworks, approaches and mechanisms

- Approaches

- Diplomacy
- Mediation
- Arbitration
- Adjudication
- Regional measures
- Sanctions and incentives
- Conventional military deterrence

- Mechanisms/bodies

- UN Security Council
- International Court of Justice
- UN mediation
- OSCE
- Disarmament treaties and treaty bodies



# Security without nuclear weapons in a nuclear-armed world: Role of law and UN – New Zealand examples



- 1975: French nuclear tests - International Court of Justice case
- 1985: Rainbow Warrior - United Nations mediation
- 1995: Underground nuclear tests – International Court of Justice

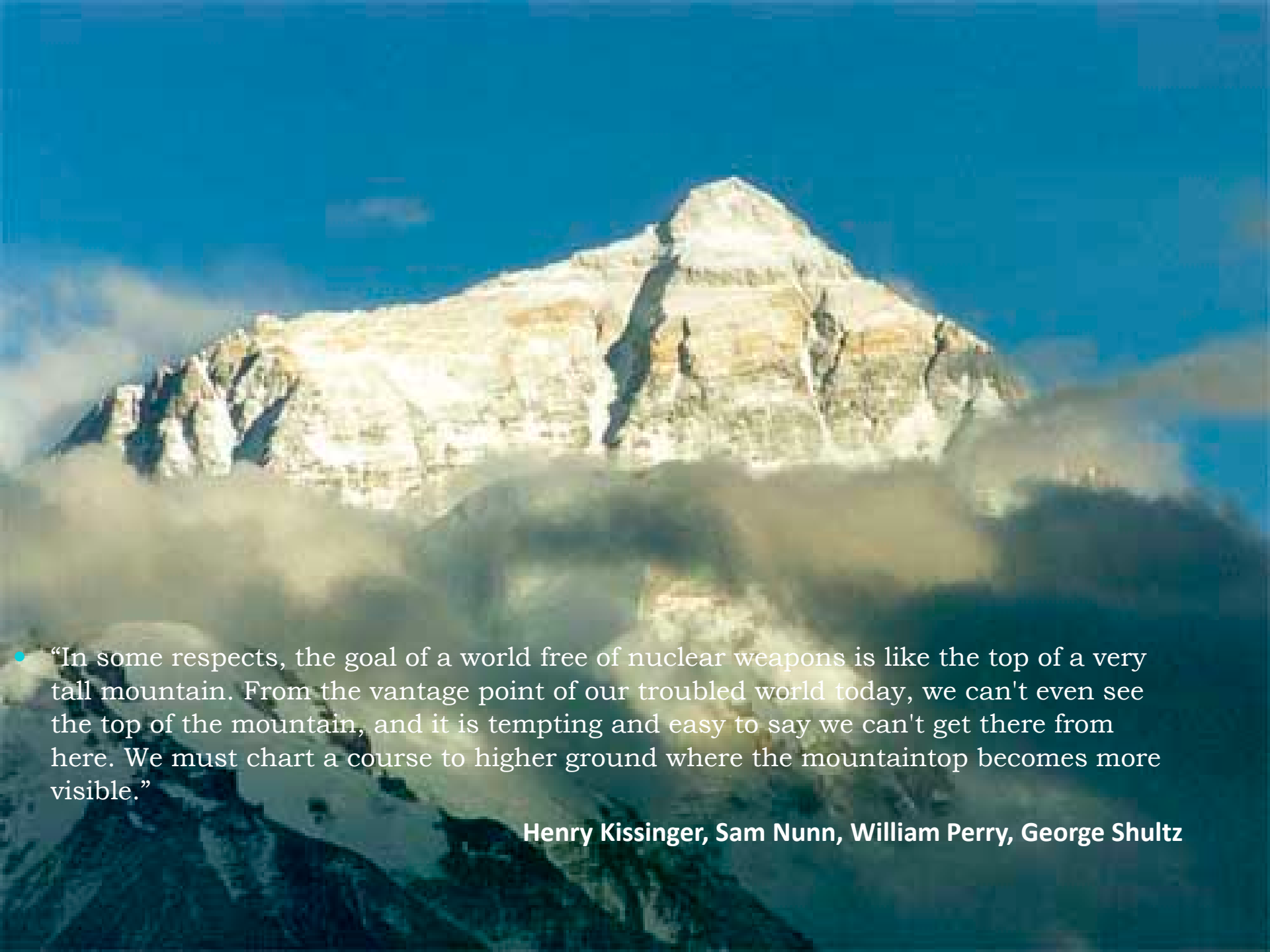


# Addressing aggression/armed conflict without nuclear weapons



- Chad v Libya – International Court of Justice
- East Timor v Indonesia – World Bank/IMF, UN Security Council and UN Peacekeeping
- Costa Rica v Nicaragua – International Court of Justice

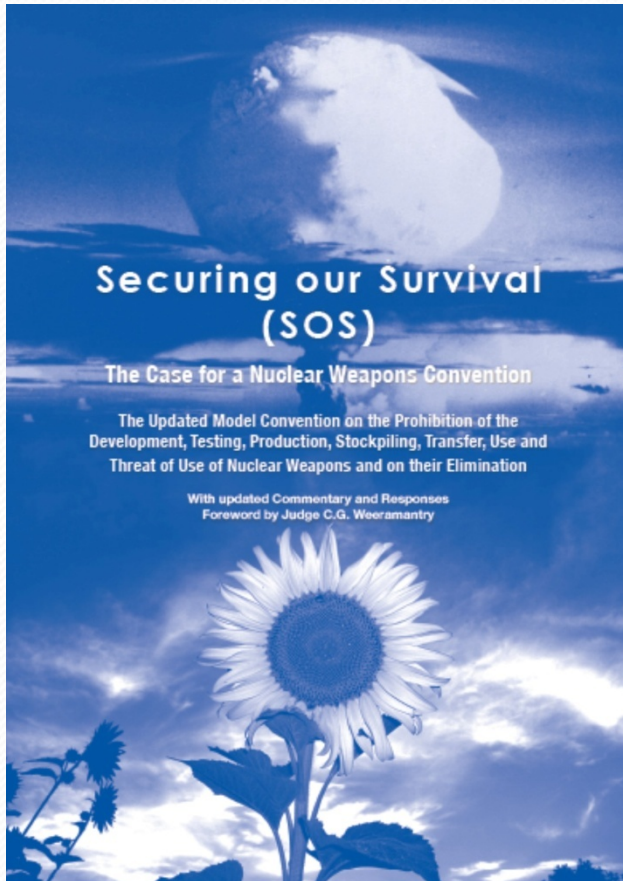




- “In some respects, the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons is like the top of a very tall mountain. From the vantage point of our troubled world today, we can't even see the top of the mountain, and it is tempting and easy to say we can't get there from here. We must chart a course to higher ground where the mountaintop becomes more visible.”

**Henry Kissinger, Sam Nunn, William Perry, George Shultz**

# Model Nuclear Weapons Convention



- Explores the legal, technical, institutional and political elements required to achieve a nuclear weapons free world.
- Similar to Chemical Weapons Convention



# Ban Ki-Moon as UN Secretary-General



- I urge all NPT parties to fulfill their obligation under the Treaty to undertake negotiations on effective measures leading to nuclear disarmament.
- They could consider negotiating a nuclear-weapons convention, backed by a strong system of verification, as has long been proposed at the United Nations. Upon the request of Costa Rica and Malaysia, I have circulated to all United Nations Member States a draft of such a convention, which offers a good point of departure.

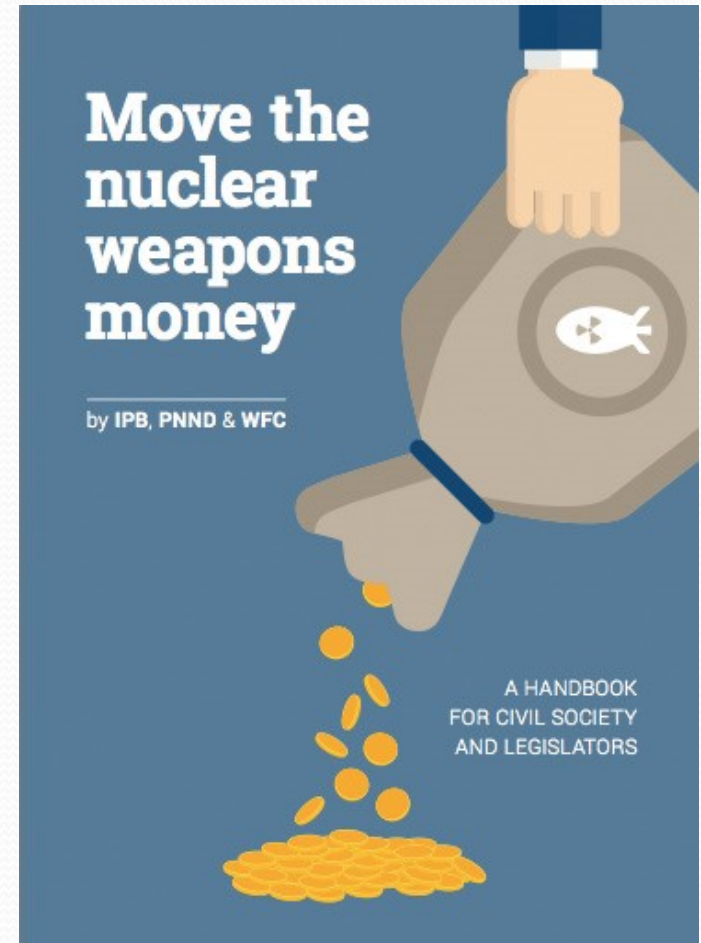
# UN High-Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament





# Move the Nuclear Weapons Money

- \$100 billion annual nuclear weapons budget
- US Senate: SANE Act (Smarter Approach to Nuclear Expenditure)
- Nuclear weapons divestment
- Don't bank on the bomb
- Ban treaty gives additional impetus to move the nuclear weapons money



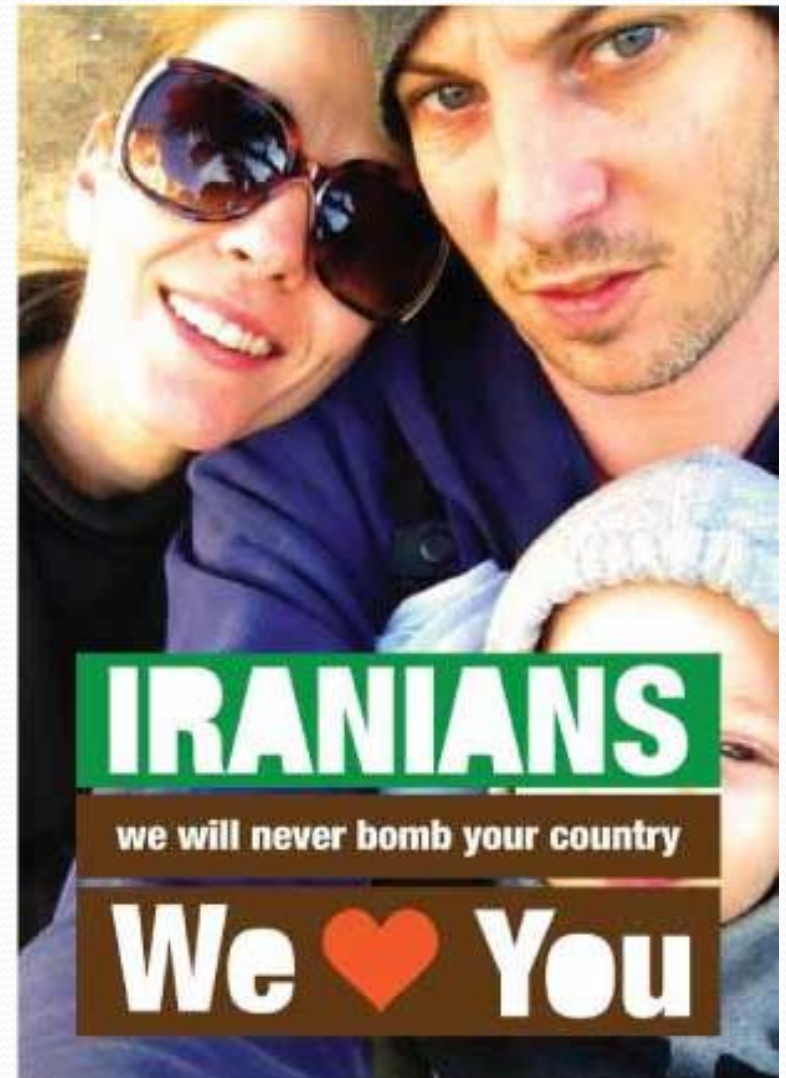
# Contacts

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- [www.baselpeaceoffice.org](http://www.baselpeaceoffice.org)
- [www.unfoldzero.org](http://www.unfoldzero.org)
- [www.globalzero.org](http://www.globalzero.org)



# Youth and social media

Peace from People  
to people:  
Israel loves Iran



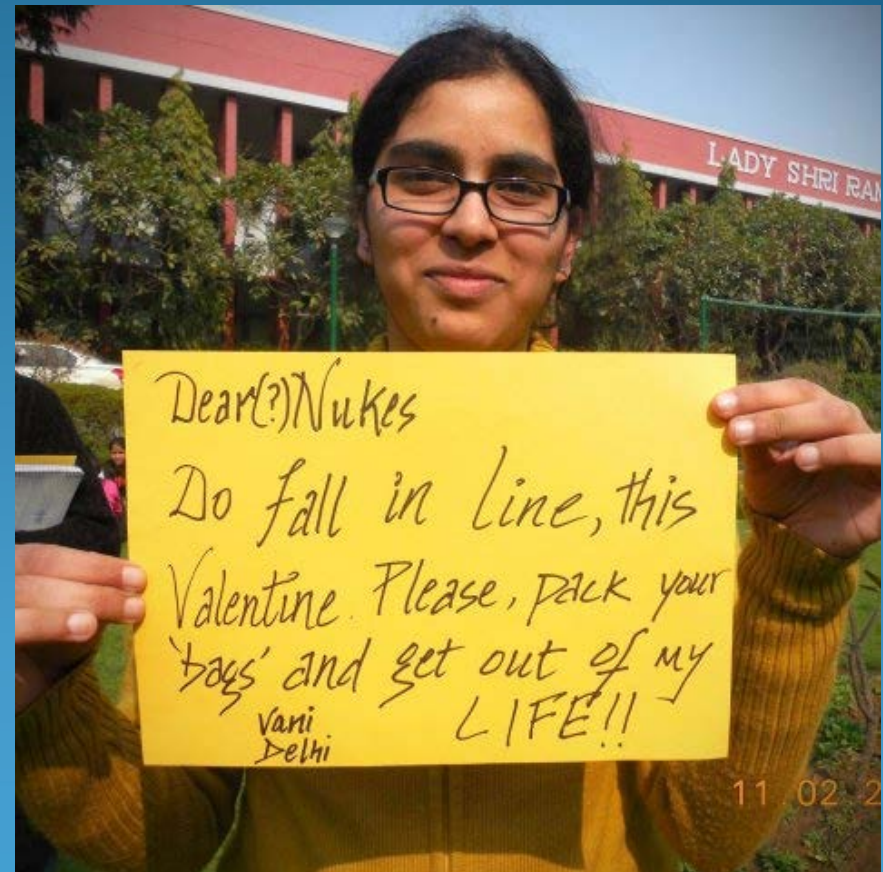
Iran loves Israel





# Global Zero student chapters

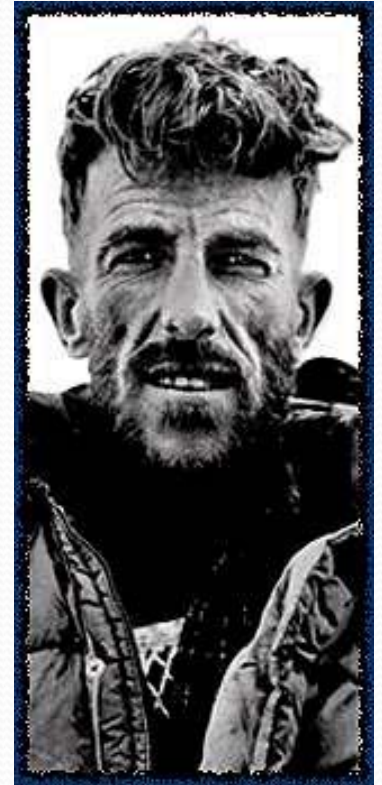
## Valentines Day: Time to Break up with Nukes!







Anyone can make a difference and succeed



I am just an ordinary bloke who persevered.

Sir Edmund Hillary